

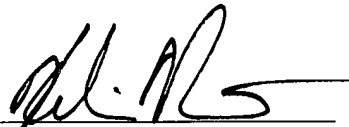
REMARKS

The submission of prior art is an amendment that falls within the guidelines of 37 C.F.R. §1.312 (see MPEP 714.16). Accordingly, Applicant would like to submit into the file record the following two patent applications: 1) 09/545100 (attorney docket no. RAL9-99-0141), 11/353841 (attorney docket no. RPS19990140US3 (IRA-10-5839-C2)). Copies of patent applications 09/545100, 11/353841 are attached. ✓

Patent applications 09/545100, 11/353841 are cumulative of U.S. 6,675,163 (which was cited in the present application). Therefore, the claims of the present application are allowable over these two patent applications for the same reasons they are allowable over U.S. Patent No. 6,675,163.

Respectfully submitted,

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